

TRIBUTE TO PAT CHRISTEN

• Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, this evening in San Francisco, a grateful community is coming together to honor one of the Nation's most able and respected leaders in the fight against HIV and AIDS—Pat Christen. For the past 15 years, Pat has served as executive director of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation. Tonight, she will end her tour of service to spend more time with her family particularly with her two young daughters, Morgan and Madison.

Since 1982, the San Francisco AIDS Foundation has been at the forefront of the ongoing battle against HIV and AIDS. Pat was there in the beginning, when a mysterious and deadly disease was taking so many of the San Francisco community's young people. She manned the agency's hotline as a volunteer, serving as an outlet and a resource for those facing the disease. From this caring and compassionate beginning, Pat rose to become a courageous and visionary leader against HIV.

In San Francisco, Pat saw thousands of young people in her community die needlessly because they could not obtain the proper medical care and support they needed in order to live and fight the disease. At the foundation, she helped to shape San Francisco's response to prevention and treatment of AIDS. She also took the battle to Congress and had a vital role in the development and passage of the Federal Ryan White CARE Act.

In her familiar grassroots style, Pat and the foundation galvanized other like-minded organizations around the country to help develop the CARE Act, and to provide the muscle and hustle that was necessary to galvanize action in Congress. Today, the Ryan White Act provides over \$2 billion a year in HIV care and treatment to those most in need. It brings new hope and the promise of a life of dignity for tens of thousands of people living with HIV in cities and communities throughout the nation.

Under Pat's leadership, the foundation recently joined the global battle against HIV and AIDS. In December 2000, the Pangaea Global AIDS Foundation was launched in an effort to expand HIV antiretroviral treatment and care in the developing world. In just a few short years, Pangaea has become a key strategic resource in this international effort, particularly in Asia and Africa.

In October 2003, the Government of South Africa announced an unprecedented program to provide HIV antiretroviral drugs to the 5 million people in that nation suffering from HIV and AIDS. Pat and other Pangaea staff were part of a small technical support team working intensively behind the scenes with the South African Government as it prepared its national treatment initiative. Without Pat's skillful leadership, it might never have happened. Pangaea is now helping to

make similar urgently needed relief available in Uganda and China.

Over the course of her career, Pat has demonstrated her willingness to speak out, to challenge others to become involved, to show compassion and understanding when others reacted with anger and vindictiveness. Above all, she had an extraordinary ability to do what others thought could not be done. To so many of us who admired her and worked with her, she became the symbol of the saying in World War II, "the difficult we do immediately; the impossible takes a little longer."

We all owe an enormous debt of gratitude to Pat for her inspiring leadership and her dedication to bring about the day when everyone everywhere with HIV will be able to live a long and productive life with dignity. Pat, thank you very, very much for all you have done so well across the years, and for the enormous difference you have made in the lives of so many persons in our own country and throughout the world. •

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 9:21 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 1537. An act to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to convey to the New Hope Cemetery Association certain land in the State of Arkansas for use as a cemetery.

S. 1663. An act to replace certain Coastal Barrier Resources System maps.

S. 1687. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study on the preservation and interpretation of the historic sites of the Manhattan Project for potential inclusion in the National Park System.

S. 1778. An act to authorize a land conveyance between the United States and the City of Craig, Alaska, and for other purposes.

S. 2052. An act to amend the National Trails System Act to designate El Camino Real de los Tejas as a National Historic Trail.

S. 2180. An act to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to exchange certain lands in the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests in the State of Colorado.

2363. An act to revise and extend the Boys and Girls Clubs of America.

S. 2508. An act to redesignate the Ridges Basin Reservoir, Colorado, as Lake Nighthorse.

H.R. 982. An act to clarify the tax treatment of bonds and other obligations issued by the Government of American Samoa.

H.R. 2408. An act to amend the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 to reauthorize volunteer programs and community partnerships for national wildlife refuges.

H.R. 2771. An act to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to reauthorize the New York City Watershed Protection Program.

H.R. 4259. An act to amend title 31, United States Code, to improve the financial accountability requirements applicable to the Department of Homeland Security, to establish requirements for the Future Years Homeland Security Program of the Department, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4115. An act to amend the Act of November 2, 1966 (80 Stat. 1112), to allow binding arbitration clauses to be included in all contracts affecting the land within the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Reservation.

H.R. 5105. An act to authorize the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution to carry out construction and related activities in support of the collaborative Very Energetic Radiation Imaging Telescope Array System (VERITAS) project on Kitt Peak near Tucson, Arizona.

The enrolled bills were signed subsequently by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

At 2:16 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House agree to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 4011) to promote human rights and freedom in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House disagree to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 4850) making appropriation for the government of the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in whole or in part against the revenues of said District for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, and for other purposes, and agree to the conference asked by the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon; and appoints the following members as the managers of the conference on the part of the House: Mr. Frelinghuysen, Mr. Istook, Mr. Cunningham, Mr. Doolittle, Mr. Weldon of Florida, Mr. Culberson, Mr. Young of Florida, Mr. Fattah, Mr. Pastor, Mr. Cramer, and Mr. Obey.

The message further announced that the House has passed the following bills, without amendment:

S. 551. An act to provide for the implementation of air quality programs developed in accordance with an Intergovernmental Agreement between the Southern Ute Indian Tribe and the State of Colorado concerning Air Quality Control on the Southern Ute Indian Reservation, and for other purposes.

S. 1421. An act to authorize the subdivision and dedication of restricted land owned by Alaska Natives.

S. 1814. An act to transfer Federal lands between the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior.

S. 2319. An act to authorize and facilitate hydroelectric power licensing of the Tapoco Project.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bills, in